

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A carrier for retaining an oxygen bottle, said carrier comprising:

a flexible open-top container adapted for maintaining a close fitting relationship with an oxygen bottle, said container including ~~an upper~~ a peripheral mouth portion ~~having a~~ including an internal rigid plastic peripheral insert section that maintains a predetermined shape and size and provides stiffness to said mouth portion and wherein said mouth section is sized to permit ingress of an oxygen bottle, to enable thereby enabling an oxygen bottle to be loaded therein, ~~vertically~~ and a flexible upper bottle retaining portion[[,]] adapted for preventing a retained oxygen bottle from falling out of said carrier,

~~a pair of upper strap ends extending from respective sides of the upper bottle retaining portion of said container, each pair of upper strap ends including a snap-fitting buckle portion constituting one of said each of pair of strap ends and a second strap end that is adapted to be looped around an upper support portion of an orthopedic appliance and is attached to the other of said upper strap pair ends via an adjustable and releasable buckle connection; and~~

~~a pair of lower straps, each of said lower straps including a strap end extending from opposite sides of the lower portion of said flexible open-top container[[,]] each of said lower straps including hook and loop fasteners on each side of each strap end[[,]] enabling each of said lower straps to be selectively looped around a lower support portion of an orthopedic appliance and fastened upon itself [[,]] said pairs of upper strap ends and said pair of lower straps enabling said flexible open[[,]]top container to be selectively adjustable both laterally and vertically when attached to an orthopedic appliance and enabling said carrier to be selectively attachable to at least one of a first orthopedic appliance and a second orthopedic appliance[[,]]~~

2. (Canceled).

3. (Canceled).

4. (Canceled).
5. (Canceled).
6. (Canceled).
7. (Canceled).
8. (Original) A carrier as recited in Claim 1, including means for retaining personal items of a person using said carrier.
9. (Original) A carrier as recited in Claim 8, wherein said personal item retaining means includes at least one basket attached to said container.
10. (Currently Amended) A carrier as recited in Claim 9, wherein at least one said basket is releasably attached.
11. (Canceled).
12. (Canceled).
13. (Currently Amended) A carrier as recited in Claim 1, wherein said upper bottle retaining portion includes a drawstring to selectively reduce the diameter of said portion, said upper bottle retaining portion being disposed above said peripheral mouth portion.
14. (New) A carrier as recited in Claim 1, including a pair of upper strap ends extending from respective sides of the upper bottle retaining portion of said container, said pair of upper strap ends including a snap-fitting buckle portion at one strap end of each of said pair, wherein the other strap end of said upper strap pair is adapted to be

looped around a portion of an upper support portion of an orthopedic appliance and is attached to the other of said upper strap end pair via an adjustable and releasable buckle connection; and

a pair of lower straps, each of said lower straps including an attached elongated hook or loop pad, and a strap end extending from opposite sides of the lower portion of said flexible open-top container, each of said strap ends including a hook or loop fastener wherein each of said lower straps is adapted to be selectively looped around a lower support portion of an orthopedic appliance and fastened upon itself using said strap end and said hook or loop pad attached to said lower strap, said pairs of upper strap ends and said pair of lower straps enabling said flexible open-top container to be selectively adjustable both laterally and vertically when attached to an orthopedic appliance.

15. (New) A carrier as recited in Claim 1, wherein said upper bottle retaining portion includes a drawstring to selectively reduce the diameter of said portion.

16. (New) A carrier as recited in Claim 14, wherein said carrier can be selectively attachable to at least one orthopedic appliance, including at least one of a wheelchair and a walker.

17. (New) A carrier as recited in Claim 14, wherein said carrier is attachable to a wheelchair.